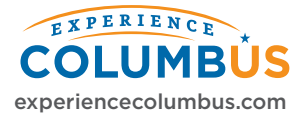




COLUMBUS WELCOMES YOU

Come find out why Columbus was ranked by J.D. Power* as
“Highest in Visitor Satisfaction in the Midwest” in 2016.

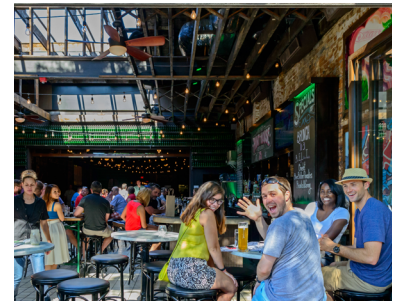


Columbus, the 15th largest city in the country (right behind San Francisco), as well as the largest and fastest-growing city in Ohio, is a smart and open community whose dynamic convention package fits the needs of every attendee. Located within a one-day drive or one-hour flight from more than half of the U.S. Population, Ohio’s state capital is easily accessible for all.

Upon arrival, attendees love exploring the place that is fast becoming known as one of the nation’s most creative, forward-thinking and exciting cities. Celebrated for its incredible arts, entertainment, fashion and culinary offerings; exciting collegiate and professional sports teams and events; and spectacular riverfront with a sprawling ribbon of parkland on the [Scioto Mile](#) through downtown, this city on the move has something for everyone.

LIVELY URBAN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS

Convention attendees are right in the middle of “Five on High” – the five-mile span of High Street connecting downtown’s districts – packed with entertainment, restaurants and shops. Many of Columbus’ unique neighborhoods are accessible on foot, including the cool galleries of the [Short North Arts District](#), awesome architecture of Victorian Village, named one of America’s most beautiful neighborhoods by *Thrillist*, and the energetic crowds of the [Arena District](#). Venture north, and you’ll find yourself in [The Ohio State University District](#). Or, take a short [CBUS](#) ride south to check out quaint and historic [German Village](#), with a stop in the [Brewery District](#) along the way.



WORLD-CLASS ARTS & CULTURE

The city’s art scene is bursting with creativity, leading it to be named one of the “30 Most Fun Places to Live in the U.S.” by *U.S. News & World Report* and one of “17 Must-Visit Destinations in 2017” by Expedia. Check out [Shadowbox Live!](#), America’s largest resident theater company, don’t miss the world-class visual art at the [Columbus Museum of Art](#), take in what *ARTnews* calls one of the top art collections in the world at [The Pizzuti Collection](#) or view the largest collection of local artists just by walking the halls of the [Greater Columbus Convention Center](#).



A FOODIE’S PARADISE

As *Food Republic* said, “If you can’t find excellent places to eat in Columbus, you’re no food enthusiast.” There are more than 100 restaurants within walking distance of the convention center alone, including the [North Market](#), where you’ll find an array of fresh and prepared foods. Explore the Columbus [Ale](#) and [Coffee](#) Trails, and don’t miss Columbus-based [Jeni’s Splendid Ice Creams](#), from well-known James Beard Award-winning cookbook author Jeni Britton Bauer, called one of the best ice cream spots in the U.S. by *Food & Wine*.



FASHION-FORWARD

Columbus has the third-highest concentration of fashion designers in the country, behind New York and Los Angeles. Hit up the Short North’s eclectic boutiques or check out [Easton](#), dubbed the “Rodeo Drive of the Midwest” by *USA Today*. To this day, Easton serves as a blueprint for the modern shopping center thanks to the brilliant minds behind it, including Les Wexner, founder of L Brands (Victoria’s Secret, Bath & Body Works, etc.), one of five Fortune 500 companies headquartered in Columbus.

TOP-RANKED ATTRACTIONS

Hang out in the Heart of Africa at “Jungle” Jack Hanna’s home zoo, the [Columbus Zoo and Aquarium](#). Get hands-on at [COSI](#), the top ranked science center loved by kids and adults of all ages. Check out [Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#), the only botanical garden in the world with a permanent collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly. Let loose a little at [Eldorado Scioto Downs](#) or [Hollywood Casino Columbus](#).



*Columbus, OH received the highest numerical score among 8 cities in the Midwest in the J.D. Power 2016 Destination Experience Satisfaction Study, based on 26,124 total responses, measuring the experiences and perceptions of travelers who visited a top 50 U.S. destination, surveyed February-July 2016. Your experiences may vary. Visit [jdpower.com](#).

RESPECTED SPORTS SCENE

The Arena District is home to NHL's [Columbus Blue Jackets](#) as well as [The Columbus Clippers](#), Triple-A baseball affiliate of the Cleveland Indians, whose home stadium, [Huntington Park](#), was named "Ballpark of the Year" four times in its first six years of operation. Nearby, MLS' [Columbus Crew SC](#) play at [MAPFRE Stadium](#), the first soccer-specific stadium built in the country. Columbus is also home to [The Ohio State Buckeyes](#), winners of the first College Football Playoff National Championship and the [Jack Nicklaus Museum](#), a tribute to the Columbus native and golf legend.

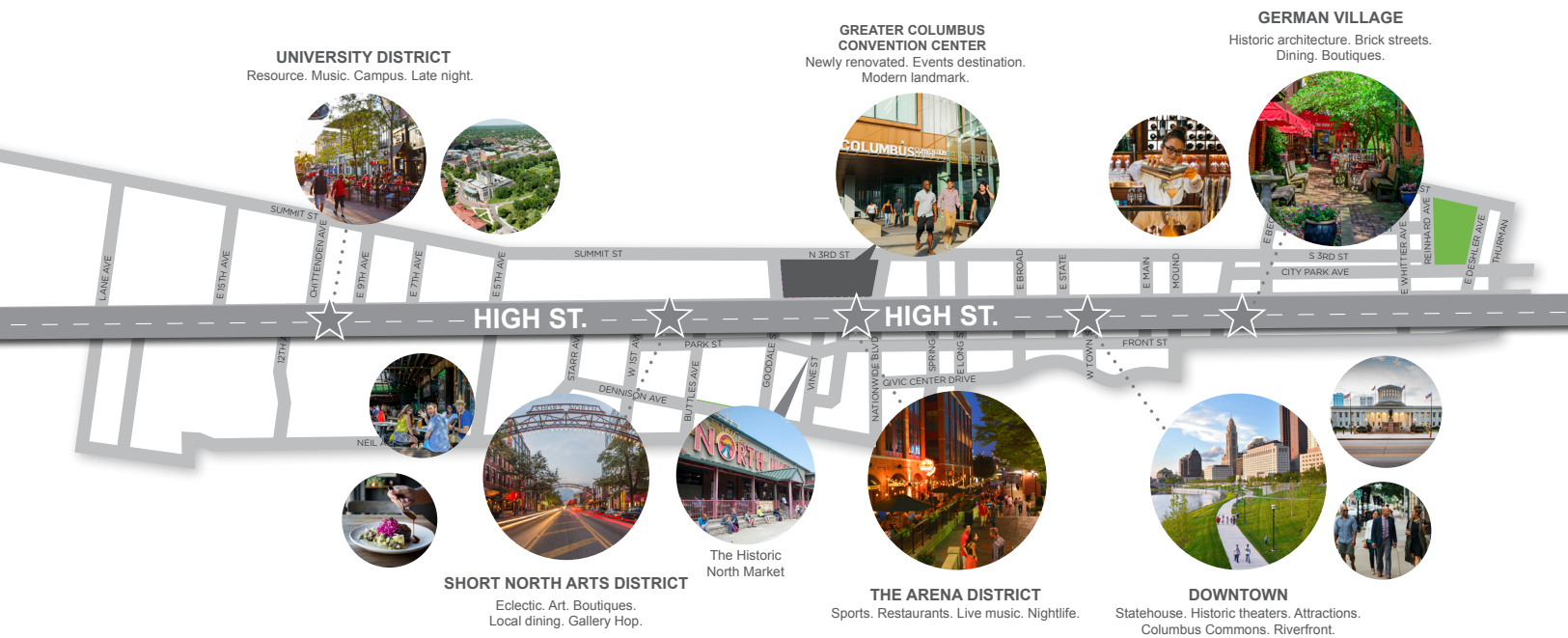
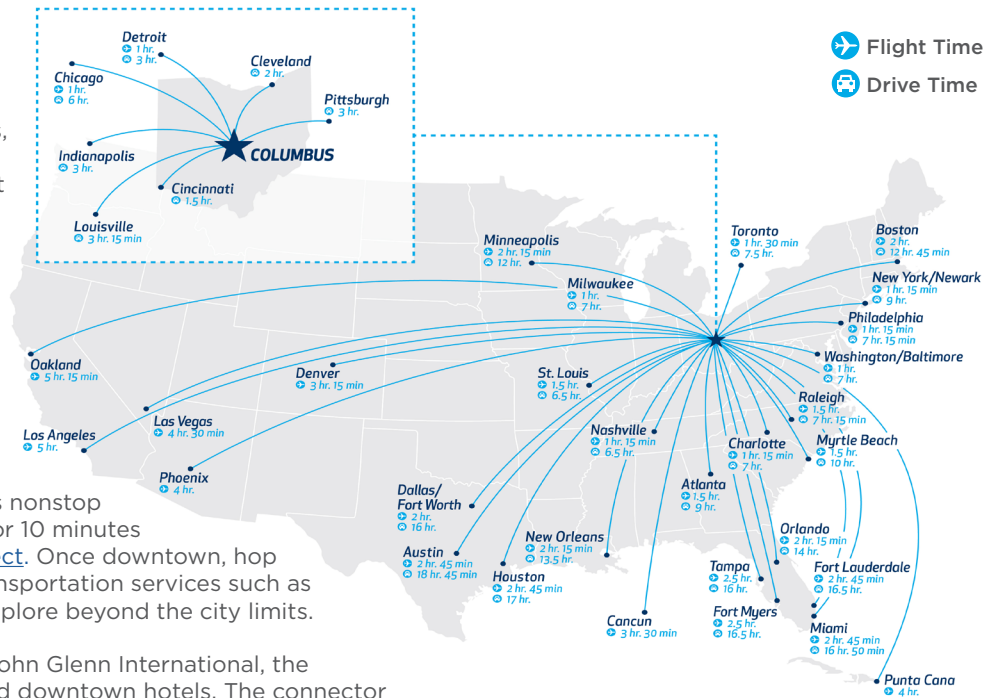
GETTING HERE AND AROUND

[John Glenn Columbus International Airport](#) offers nonstop service to 37 destinations and is just eight miles or 10 minutes from downtown, a short ride on [COTA's AirConnect](#). Once downtown, hop on the free [CBUS](#) circulator or use alternative transportation services such as [Uber](#), [Lyft](#), [CoGo](#) (bike-sharing) and [Car2Go](#) to explore beyond the city limits.

AirConnect | Express bus service runs between John Glenn International, the Greater Columbus Convention Center (GCCC) and downtown hotels. The connector stops at baggage claim every 30 minutes and costs \$2.75 each way.

CBUS | The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) operates bus service in Columbus. The CBUS is a free downtown circulator that runs every 10-15 minutes from the Short North Arts District in the north to the Brewery District/German Village in the south, with stops at many popular downtown locations along the way.

COLUMBUS HIGH FIVE | Five miles. Five entertainment districts. Free downtown circulator.



STILL CURIOUS?

- Columbus won the \$40 million U.S. Department of Transportation Smart City Challenge.
- *The Washington Post* calls Columbus the "new destination for food lovers."
- *Time* has named Columbus among the country's top big cities and best places to live for millennials.
- According to *Forbes*, Columbus is the #1 opportunity city in the country.

It's our pleasure to assist you with an amazing Columbus experience. To learn more, visit experiencecolumbus.com, follow us on Twitter [@expcols](https://twitter.com/expcols) or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/experiencecolumbus).